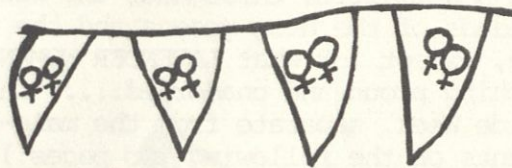


blazing star

chicago women's liberation union 2748 n. lincoln 953-6808

Gay Pride, Lesbian Pride, 1975



It was around midnight on the evening of June 28, 1969. In Greenwich Village, probably the largest gay ghetto in the US, the New York police raided the Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street. It should have been a typical police raid on a typical gay bar, in which the police would terrorize the patrons of the bar, who would not put up much resistance because they feared exposure more than they feared the police. But this raid on the Stonewall was different -- this time the gay men and women in the bar fought back. For perhaps the first time in the history of gay oppression, gay people stood their ground; they locked the cops in the bar, threw things at them when they tried to escape, and set fire to the bar.

The Stonewall incident is generally considered to mark the beginning of the current gay liberation movement. Within a month after Stonewall, the Gay Liberation Front started in New York. (The organization was named in honor of the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam.) Soon, there were GLF's organized in many cities. The first Gay Liberation group in Chicago began in December, 1969.

On June 28, 1970 -- the first anniversary of the Stonewall Riot -- New York's gay community held the first Christopher Street Liberation Day, in which 10,000 gay people marched through New York from the Village up to Central Park. Since 1970, in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and other cities, the last week in June has been commemorated as Gay Pride Week, in honor of the Stonewall Riot and the Christopher Street Liberation Day.

cont. on page 2

vol.1, no. 4 june 1975

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In Chicago, Gay Pride Week has been celebrated every summer since 1971, with a variety of activities, including demonstrations and dances. One feature of Gay Pride Week activities in Chicago has been the "Kiss-In" rally at the Civic Center, which commemorates the arrest of two gay men on charges of "lewd and lascivious behavior" for having kissed each other in public.

In the past, Gay Pride Week has included the participation of both gay men and women, although as with most "mixed" gay activities, the men have far out-numbered the women. Two years ago, there was a large Lesbian contingent in the Gay Pride Parade, and many all-women's activities throughout the week. However, last year the parade fell into the hands of the drag queens and the macho-leather boys. Most women boycotted the parade, except for what LAVENDER WOMAN called "...the handful of dignified Lesbians marching proud and unadorned...." This year Chicago will have its first Lesbian Pride Week, separate from the male-dominated Gay Pride Week. (See schedule of events on the following two pages.)



Answer to last crossword puzzle.
There will be a crossword puzzle
next issue.

1	A	2	R	3	I	4	S	5	E	6	C	7	V	8	E	9	N	10	L	11	O	12	T
13	C	14	O	15	R	16	E	17	W	18	A	19	N	20	E	21	E	22	L	23	S	24	O
25	E	26	S	27	T	28	M	29	O	30	T	31	E	32	T	33	E	34	A	35	R	36	R
37	D	38	A	39	S	40	A	41	M	42	E	43	F	44	V	45	E	46	S	47	T		
48	B	49	E	50	T	51	T	52	E	53	R	54	B	55	L	56	A	57	T	58	A	59	N
60	C	61	O	62	R	63	A	64	N	65	E	66	M	67	I	68	N	69	T	70	E	71	D
72	A	73	N	74	T	75	O	76	L	77	D	78	H	79	E	80	E	81	D	82	M	83	E
84	T	85	H	86	E	87	E	88	O	89	B	90	E	91	O	92	D	93	E	94	B	95	S
96	H	97	E	98	R	99	O	100	V	101	E	102	R	103	R	104	I	105	S	106	K		
107	E	108	U	109	R	110	R	111	I	112	D	113	E	114	S	115	A	116	M	117	E	118	N
119	R	120	R	121	C	122	A	123	N	124	S	125	E	126	N	127	D	128	E	129	R	130	D
131	H	132	A	133	N	134	G	135	L	136	E	137	A	138	N	139	I						
140	F	141	L	142	I	143	N	144	G	145	S	146	A	147	L	148	T	149	A	150	L	151	B
152	I	153	O	154	D	155	E	156	N	157	T	158	S	159	C	160	E	161	A	162	N		
163	B	164	A	165	B	166	Y	167	O	168	A	169	K	170	E	171	N	172	E	173	D	174	N

not a poem

Do We Need Life & death matter
Criticized and laughed at?...

What's funny about no jobs and living
in roach filled two-room shacks?..

Life isn't what the man says on T.V....

Life is about people; love; God and Peace
The only thing we need in life is ourselves.

Everyone who has himself/herself is beautiful
Beautiful people are those who are

passionate about themselves life and living
Beautiful people are those who are in touch

themselves spiritually, emotionally, and
sexually.

People who are considerate of themselves and
others. To make it in life "you really gotta
dig on yourself."

The people who have the power to change
things aren't doing a thing

Drug traffic and conditions that breed
drug usage could be stopped...Just like
the lack of jobs, the lack of human dignity
and respect... "But nothing from nothing is
nothing"--and this is exactly what we're
getting--NOTHING!!!

A better life with better conditions and
opportunities for people don't have to be
just talk--With a little effort this could
easily be reality...

This is not a poem
but only facts ---

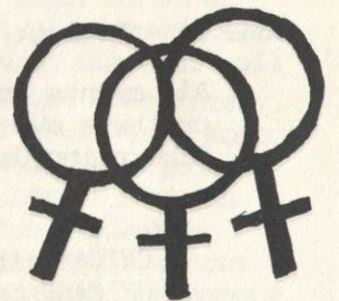
JoAnne Little

LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK

June 20-29, 1975



Sponsored by the
LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK COMMITTEE
953-6808





lesbian pride week schedule



For the first time in the history or Herstory of Chicago, there will be a Lesbian Pride Week. The activities planned are the result of the collective efforts of both the Lesbian and Feminist communities. The plans are complete, now it is up to every Lesbian and Feminist to see that the First Annual Lesbian Pride Week be known as the "gayest" of them all. Listed below is the schedule of events:

- June 20 - Children's Concert, Benefit for the Lesbian Pride Week Committee and the Lesbian Mothers' Defense Fund. Women 13 and up, \$2.00, children, \$1.00, children under five free. (No males over 12 admitted.) Blue Gargoyle, 5655 South University, 7:30 P.M.
- June 21 - Coffeehouse, 8:00 P.M., Liberty Hall, 2440 N. Lincoln, \$1.00 donation.
- June 22 - Tea for JoAnn Mulert, Anti-war activist imprisoned with Jane Kennedy, 1:00 P.M. 1441 W. Farwell (Wilson). \$1.00 donation for the defense of JoAnn and other anti-war outlaws.
- June 22 - Women's Softball, 3:30 P.M., Diamond 21, Grant Park, Jackson and Lake Shore Dr.
- June 23 - "Lesbianism and Racism" workshop, 7:30 P.M., Chicago Women's Liberation Union, 2748 N. Lincoln. A discussion of how racism affects our lives as Lesbians and what we can do about it.
- June 24 - "Killer Dyke" play, Civic Center, Washington and Dearborn, 12 Noon. (Part of mixed rally sponsored by Gay Pride Week Committee.)
- June 24 - "Lesbians in the Professions" workshop, 7:30 P.M. 1431 W. Farwell, (Hathaway).
- June 25 - "Lesbians in Chicago Herstory" a workshop sponsored by the New Alexandria Library, 7:30 P.M., Lesbian Feminist Center (LFC) 3523 N. Halsted.
- June 26 - "Non-sexist Childrearing" a workshop, 7:30 P.M. LFC.
- June 28 - March, 1:30 P.M., and Rally, 3:30 P.M. "Women in Support of Lesbian Rights", in the Loop, with speakers, "Killer Dyke" play and more. Assemble for the march at State and Grand at 1:15; Rally will be at the Civic Center.
- June 28 - Dance, Liberty Hall, 2440 N. Lincoln, 8:00 P.M. \$2.00 donation at the door, \$1.50, in advance.
- June 29 - Women's Softball, 3:30 P.M., Diamond 21, Grant Park, Jackson & Lake Shore Drive.
- June 29 - Potluck, 7:00 P.M. LFC, 3523 N. Halsted.

All events are for women only (except where noted). Watch for more information on these events in Chicago-area bars and centers, or call Chicago Women's Liberation Union, 953-6808, or Lesbian Feminist Center, 935-4270.

PARTIAL LIST OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

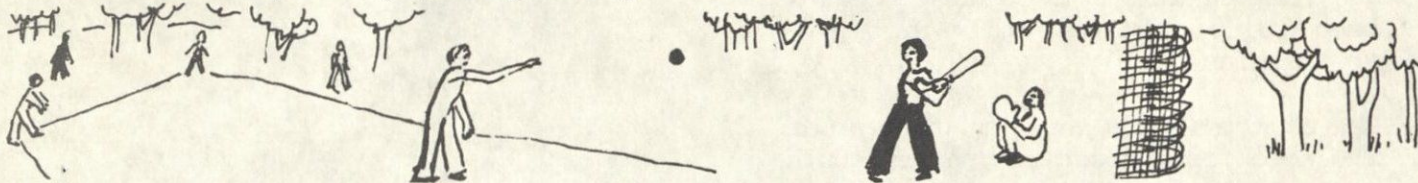
CHICAGO LESBIAN LIBERATION
CHICAGO WOMEN'S LIBERATION UNION
FEMINIST LESBIAN PARTY

GAY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
WOMEN IN CRISIS CAN ACT (WICCA)

looking at the news

The May 12 Benefit at Augie's, 3729 N. Halsted, was a big success. The more that one hundred dollars raised goes to the work of the Lesbian Workgroup of the Women's Union. A special thanks to Olga, owner of Augie's for the use of her Lounge and her generous donation...Augie's basketball team took second place in the Hamlin Park Women's League. Augie's is also sponsoring a softball team in the Kozciusko Park league....Sue & Nan's, 3927 N. Lincoln, fielded a softball team against the Lost & Found on June 1st. The team, led by great pitching

and fielding, won a 22 - 1 victory.... The Lost & Found, 2959 W. Irving Park, sponsored a picnic in Schiller Woods on June 1. Although interrupted by rain, the picnic was lots of fun with great steaks provided by the Lost & Found, and climaxed by a drawing for champagne and cold duck. Many thanks to Shirley and the folks at the L&F.... Dyke softball is played every Sunday at Four at Diamond 21 in Grant Park, Jackson and Lake Shore Drive. It's open to everyone and is coordinated by the Lesbian Feminist Center, 3523 N. Halsted.



what to do when the man comes

There has been a lot of discussion in the Lesbian community lately about the FBI investigations of our sisters in Lexington, Kentucky and New Haven, Connecticut. When Lesbians in these cities refused to answer questions from the "Feds", they were subpoenaed to testify before special Grand Juries. They were later sent to jail for up to eighteen months because they refused to answer Grand Jury questions. There is absolutely no evidence that any of the Lesbians who are now in jail had any important information to give. The recent FBI harrasment of Lesbians is an attempt to stop the Lesbian movement. By raising our fears, the FBI hopes to create distrust and disunity within our community. If we are not united, we could be very easily destroyed.

Chicago Lesbians are concerned about the possibility of the FBI starting an investigation in our city. It is important that all of us know and understand our rights, should we be questioned by the FBI, or any other government agency. If an agent comes to your door, he/she must identify himself as a member of the FBI and show you his/her credentials. If a stranger starts asking you suspicious questions, ask him/her to give you proper identification, and to name the agency that he/she represents. Regard-

less of how you are approached, **DO NOT GIVE ANY INFORMATION TO THE FBI**, other than your name and address. You do not have to answer questions from an agent. It is your Constitutional right to have a lawyer present during questioning. Simply tell the agent that you do not wish to talk to him without your lawyer. Even if you think that you don't know anything important, do not cooperate with an agent. The simplest, most innocent statement (for instance who was at a New Year's Eve party) can be used against one of our sisters. DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS OR CO-OPERATE IN ANY WAY WITH THE FBI.

A group of women lawyers have volunteered to counsel or represent any Lesbian who is approached by the FBI. If you or one of your friends are contacted by an agent, call the Midwest Women's Legal Group at 641-1905. They have a 24 hour answering service. Explain the reason for your call and a lawyer will contact you immediately. If you have questions, or would like more information, call the Lesbian Workgroup of the Chicago Women's Liberation Union at 953-6808, or the Lesbian Feminist Center at 935-4270. Our strength is our unity: if we all stand together, no amount of harrasment will divide our Lesbian community.

looking at the news

A recent meeting at the Lesbian Feminist Center raised some important questions and cleared the air on some issues. Under discussion was the presence of men at the Bar. Olga, owner of Augies, explained that legally she cannot keep men out of the bar, but that she will limit male patrons to gay men whom she knows and trusts. This seems to be a fair decision. We think that consideration must also be given to Olga's many contributions to the Lesbian community. Some of these are previously described in this column; she has also sponsored bowling teams, picnics and made donations to groups. Olga has been very responsive to the needs of the Lesbian community.

One of the issues that was raised was the need for respect and understanding among Lesbians. Women who came out at different times have had different experiences and different life styles. Sometimes these differences are translated into bad attitudes. These may take the form of putting women down for role-playing or being into drag; making judgments about what kind of women go into different bars; feeling that younger Lesbians are not for real because they haven't gone through a trial by fire or that older Lesbians aren't together because they aren't feminist enough. None of these attitudes promote unity among Lesbians; the discussion with Olga raised these points and paved the way for better understanding in the future.



--- JoAnne Little

There will be a rally in support of JoAnne Little on Saturday, June 21 at 2:30 pm at Shiloh Baptist Church, 4840 South Dorchester. JoAnne herself will be at the rally to talk about her case.... Helen's Bookstore had a going-out-of-business sale. A collective is being organized to set up a women's bookstore and media center. They need money.... The armed forces are continuing to try to enforce their archaic anti-gay policies. For example, one highly decorated sergeant, Leonard Matlovich, was given a less than honorable discharge for being gay, while Reserve Cmdr. Lawrence Heisel may lose his pension for being gay. Both cases are being challenged. Similar situations are going on with Lesbians in the women's branches of the armed forces. For more information on that, see the current issue of OFF OUR BACKS.... A Task Force on Gay Psychologists has just been formed within the American Psychological Association, which includes two Lesbian psychologists, Dorothy Riddle and Barbara Sang. They are interested in hearing from other Lesbian psychologists, care of Dorothy at 40 E. 14th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85701....



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More 'Looking at the News' on last page